1. Introduction
KMDI’s mission is to serve as the catalyst for knowledge media design through collaborative interdisciplinary and human-centered research, teaching and social innovation. The KMDI community also extends to research and business in the public and private sectors to develop new projects. Our entrepreneurial operations team supports the research community by identifying potential collaborators and working to access new funding opportunities. The challenges to build, support and sustain a social network remain, and continue to be a subject of our research. Students in the Collaborative Program are a vital part of the KMDI community. KMDI’s graduate courses bring together students from several different disciplines who are interested in the interaction between technology, media and society.

Director’s Statement/Executive Summary
The institute is going through a process of revitalization in partnership with, and assisted by, the Faculty of Information and the Semaphore Lab. We are seeking to increase the visibility and impact of the Institute and the last few months have seen significant progress in this regard. I would like to thank the KMDI management team, which has shown great leadership and oversight with respect to the various initiatives that we are undertaking. Zoe Jaremus, the Operations and Programme Coordinator for KMDI has been closely involved with all our projects, while our strategic planning and decision making has been greatly assisted by the KMDI Executive Committee. The executive committee consists of Dean Seamus Ross (ex officio) as well as Professors Barry Wellman, Kelly Lyons, and Gerald Penn). One of the most important missions of KMDI is the collaborative programme (CP) that it runs. The CP has been ably run by Professor Anthony Wensley and the CP steering committee consisting of Howard Mount, Nadia Caidi, and John Danahy. I would also like to thank Joseph Ferenbok for his work with KMDI over the past couple of years including spearheading the development of a memorandum with the Institute of Medical Science, working on the KMDI website, assisting the the self-study report to the School of Graduate Studies for our CP Programme, and teaching courses. Peter Pennefather has also continued his work with KMDI, including advising students and teaching a number of innovative courses. It is a privilege to work with an institute that has an enthusiastic core of committed people that share and further its goals.

Overall, as we approach the end of 2013 the Institute is in good health and we have a committed team that is working hard to ensure that the institute grows and prospers in the future. Financially, the institute is on a sound footing. While our decisions are always constrained by the budget that is available to us, we are working within those constraints and managing to maintain a full complement of courses and activities within the available budget. In the long run we plan to supplement that budget by expanding our teaching role and by bringing in new sources of research funding. In summer 2012 we submitted an NSERC Create grant for a new diploma course relating to the Internet of Things (submitted
j聯合 with the Sempahore Lab). While our letter of intent got through the internal competition at the University of Toronto it was unsuccessful at NSERC, but we are continuing to look for other sources of funding including a postdoc fellowship funded by a combination of industry and MITACS funding.

One of the major changes that we have made this year is in terms of how we teach our courses. In the past our courses have often had small class sizes of between 8 and 15 students. We have made a commitment to teaching more students in our classes while maintaining good standards of quality. In the second half of this year we have taught three courses, all with class sizes of more than 30 students (KMD 1001, KMD 2001, KMD 2002). I would particularly like to thank Andrew Clement, and Steve Szigeti and Ryan Kealey, for their work in teaching KMD 2001, and KMD 1001, respectively.

We are also increasing our engagement with our students through workshops and other activities and we have reinstated the practice of holding poster receptions to celebrate and advertise the work of student in KMD courses and affiliated research. We are extremely grateful to Kathleen Schaeffer for assisting us in mounting workshops on KMD-relevant topics that are of current interest.

We have also re-launched the KMD seminar series. For the fall we are having three high quality speakers in Eleni Stroulia (NSERC/iCORE Industrial Research Chair on Service Systems Management at the University of Alberta), Rob Woodbury (Design Professor from Simon Fraser University) and Tom Furness, (Professor of Industrial Engineering, and Founding Director of the Human Interface Technology Lab at the University of Washington). We will continue to offer high quality seminars on a monthly basis during the fall and winter semesters and we see this as a powerful way of not only giving the KMDI opportunities to see presentations on outstanding research, but also as a way to strengthen connections between KMDI and external researchers.

In summary, KMDI is moving forward and is seeking to establish itself as a centre for teaching and research related to innovative design, focusing on the collaborations between people, practices and technology. 2013 has seen steady progress in this regard and we look forward to further process in 2014 and the following years.

2. Previous Year

2.1 Activities - May 1 – October 8, 2013
may include conferences, colloquia, seminars, participation at other events/workshops/forums, students support, external liaison, etc.

KMDI Participation in GRAND Conference Poster Session
From May 14 – 16 the 2013 GRAND-NCE Conference took place in Toronto. The fourth annual digital media conference showcases multi-disciplinary programs of research and innovation spanning the broad spectrum of digital media from across Canada. On May 16th, 2013 the KMD Collaborative Program participated in a two hour lunch and poster session attended by conferences goers and organizers which
consisting of 25 Canadian member universities. KMD and Semaphore students showcased their recent projects, and student attendees were given the opportunity to connect and network with a broad audience of industry and government representatives.

**KMDI Event honoring Professor Ron Baecker**
On May 16, 2013 KMDI hosted a party honoring Ron Baecker the founder and visionary behind KMDI. The event celebrated his achievements as well as his 70th birthday. Professor Kelly Booth, Scientific Director of the Graphics Animation and New Media NCE (National Centre of Excellence), acted as the Master of Ceremonies. The evening was filled with great speakers, with many prominent people from Canada's new media and graphics (academic and industry) community attending. There were a variety of speakers highlighting different parts of Ron's life and achievements including Profs. Leslie Mezei, and Eugene Fiume from the University of Toronto. Notably, Prof. Mezei founded the lab in 1967 which eventually became the Dynamic Graphics Project (with Ron Baecker joining in 1972) and today's DGP Lab. The event was a wonderful opportunity for KMDI to thank its founder Prof. Ron Baecker for founding the Institute and for supporting and advising it since its founding in 1997.

**SGS Review and KMD Consultations**
In April 2013 the KMD Collaborative Program was informed that it would need to engage in a Self-Study process and would be reviewed by the School of Graduate Studies in January 2014. In preparation of this process KMDI has held several consultations with its Collaborative Program Steering Committee as well as with its larger KMD Collaborative Program Committee which consists of core faculty member representatives from each participating unit. The committees have discussed various strategies for improving the KMD Collaborative Program including: course offerings, requirements, workshops, and further engagement with individual units. A consultation with students is planned for October 28th, 2013. The KMD Collaborative Program self study findings and full report will be available upon request in April 2013.

**Joint Workshop Series: KMDI/Inforum/Semaphore**
KMDI has been working closely with the Inforum and Semaphore over the past several months to contribute and help deliver a series of workshops for iSchool and KMD Collaborative Program students. Working directly with Kathleen Schaeffer in the Inforum we have established which workshops being offered by the iSchool’s “iSkills” Series of Co-Curricular record workshops would be suited to KMD CP students. KMDI has shared in the costs and planning these workshops, while Semaphore has contributed in the use of space and equipment. The workshops include: Design Basics, Intro to Inkscape, Intro to InDesign, Intro to Illustrator, Intro to Photoshop, 3D Printing, and Raspberry Pi Hack-a-thon.

KMDI would like to thank Kathleen Schaeffer from the Inforum for her hard work and efforts in organizing this series and fostering greater relationships and collaboration by bringing KMDI on to this initiative.
**KMD Speaker Series**

This Fall KMDI has reinstituted its speaker series, which focuses on bringing together individuals from academia and industry whose work is based in knowledge media design. The series kicked off in September with guest lecturer Eleni Stroulia from the University of Alberta to discuss her research and work around the Smart Condo Project. The second and third talks for the Fall term will take place on Monday October 21: Rob Woobury and Monday November 11: Tom Furness. Full details about the speaker series is available on our website: [www.kmdi.utoronto.ca/talks](http://www.kmdi.utoronto.ca/talks)

We are currently in the process of finalizing the speakers for the winter, a task which should be completed in mid November.

**2.2 KMD Collaborative Program**

The Collaborative Program in KMD continues to draw students interested in interdisciplinary collaborative design work on problems of knowledge media design, management and evaluation. The CP program continues to grow and develop with some of its highest course enrolments, while KMDI is also looking into other opportunities. One of the main objectives of the KMD Program Committee

**Enrollment:**

In the spring of 2013 the Program Steering committee decided to move applications acceptance to ongoing basis, instead of once or twice per academic in order to make the program more accessible.

As of October 2013 KMD CP has accepted **15** new students to the Collaborative Program. Breakdown:

4 -- OISE (CTL, & HSSIDJE)  
5 -- Mechanical and Industrial Engineering  
3 -- Faculty of Information  
1 -- Architecture  
1-- Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies  
1 -- Study of Religion.  

The goal for the 2013/2014 Academic years was to have between 25-30 new enrollments and we are currently on track to achieve this goal as we are receiving further applications on an ongoing basis.

**Courses:**

**Summer 2013:**

- KMD2002H: Technologies for Knowledge Media. Taught by Professor Mark Chignell, Teaching Assistant Ryan Kealey. Enrollment 32
Summer/Fall 2013

- KMD4000: Special Topics – Wayfinding. Instructor Professor Peter Pennefather. (running as a modular course)

Fall 2013

  Enrolment 33 Students.
- KMD 2001H/INF Human-centred Design. Taught by Andrew Clement
  - Teaching Assistant Terry Costantino
  - Enrolment 31 Students.

Winter 2013

- KMD 1002H F Knowledge Media Design: Contexts and Practice. Jim Slotta, Instructor of Record.
  Co-Instructor and Teaching Assistant TBA
- KMD 2004H Knowledge Media in Culture and Society/INF 2165H Social Implications of ICTs
  Dr. Jonathan Obar

Cross listed Courses:
these courses can be taken as electives towards KMD Collaborative Program Requirements

CSC2604: Topics in Human-Centred and Interdisciplinary Computing
Systems Thinking for Global Problems
Department: Computer Science
Instructor: Steve Easterbrook
Winter Term 2014, Thursday 2:00pm – 4:00pm, room BA 2179 (Bahen Buildin)
http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~sme/SystemsThinking/

LAN2034: Landscape Architecture and Digital Communication
Department: Architecture
Instructor: John Danahy and Dr. Rodney Hoinkes
Winter Term 2014, Wednesday 2:00pm – 4:30pm
LAN2034 Course outline

DRA3907HS Digital Dramaturgy in Performance
Instructor: Antje Budde
Spring Term 2014, Wednesdays 2:00pm - 5:00pm
http://dramacentre.utoronto.ca/?page_id=100#DRADigiHS
INF2241H: Critical Making: Information Studies, Social Values, and Physical Computing
Department: Faculty of Information
Instructor: Matt Ratto
Winter Term 2014, Monday 9:00am – 12:00pm
http://current.ischool.utoronto.ca/course-descriptions/inf2241h

INF2320: Remix Culture
Department: Faculty of Information
Instructor: Sara Grimes
Winter Term 2014, Wednesday 1:00pm – 4:00pm
http://current.ischool.utoronto.ca/course-descriptions/inf2320h

3. Objectives/Plans for the upcoming year
KMDI is currently in a steady state where it is fulfilling the main requirements of its mandate. It is running a successful collaborative programme and teaching multidisciplinary, and design-relevant courses that appeal to a broad range of students from across the campus. It is also consolidating its role as a meeting place for discussions and activities relating to innovative design and it has re-established the KMDI Seminar Series as a prominent forum on campus for research presentations by external speakers.

Our goals for the upcoming year are to continue the process of moving KMDI to the next level where it functions as a major player in the design community. Our top priority is to increase the visibility and impact of the institute. We plan to continue teaching innovative and attractive courses to a large number of students from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines. Working a course at a time we will be looking to get enrolments up to a minimum of 20 students per course and to ensure that courses are taught by experienced instructors on a multi-year basis and with a consistent core curriculum that is design-relevant.

Our second priority is to increase research funding and research activity within KMDI. As a first step we are looking to set up a KMDI postdoctoral fellowship in 2014 supported by industry and government funding. The role of the new postdoctoral fellow will be not only to conduct design related research, but also to mentor KMDI graduate students and assist in the writing of research grants.

Our third priority is to enhance and rationalize are strategies for communicating about, and promoting, the institute. In the next few months we plan to form a KMDI communications and promotions committee that will look into our existing programmes for communication and promotion and how to develop more effective method for enhancing the visibility and impact of the institute. Currently our promotion activity is a legacy of tools and methods that were put in place over a decade ago by earlier administrations of KMDI. These methods including the KMDI Digest and Newsletter, as well as the KMDI website. Other options that we would like to consider include a quarterly magazine, one or more blogs, and articles or workshops about knowledge media design. In addition to publications, we also promote
KMDI through receptions and other events and the committee will also examine these activities and how to maximize their effectiveness.

**Ongoing and Planned Programming:**

**KMDI Holiday Party and Poster Session**
In an effort to continue to re-establish the institute and program KMDI will be hosting its second poster session of 2013, which will be combined with our Holiday Party scheduled for Wednesday December 11, at Hart House in the East Common Room. The event will showcase our students excellent work and celebrate the end of another year. It is KMDI’s goal to host a poster session at the end of each academic term.

**Workshops**
Continuing to work with the Inforum we will be offering more advance workshops in the Winter term, including an Arduino’s workshop, and 3D Printing 2 (which the first 3D printing workshop is a pre-requisite).
In addition KMD CP will be running some workshops based on the KMD1002H course that will be open to all KMD students, including those not registered in this course.

**Speaker Series**
Currently in the process of finalizing the speakers for Winter 2014, the second session will feature speakers from industry.
In conjunction with our larger speaker series KMDI will also be smaller talks featuring KMD Collaborative Program graduates discussing where they are now, their work, research and how KMDI helped them get there.

**KMDI Post Doctoral Position**
Currently KMDI is in the process of pursuing an industry partner in order to obtain a MITACS grant to assist in the funding of a KMDI Post Doctorate. In line with the institute’s mandate to continue to pursue research

**Project Support Series**
Teaming up with Semaphore KMD Collaborative Program students will have the opportunity to submit a project proposal that utilizes Semaphore and its resources. Students will propose a project that they can complete in the duration of a single semester, they will have access to equipment and space in the Semaphore Lab to complete the project. The final product will be featured on the KMDI website and kept there as a record.
KMDI will pay the cost of equipment training and materials used. Submissions will be reviewed by a committee consisting of Faculty from KMDI and Semaphore. This project is slated to launch in January 2014.
The ACM SIGCHI conference will be in Toronto in 2014. It is the major international conference on human-computer interaction and we are looking at ways to promote KMDI during the conference. One of our promotional strategies is to participate in some way in major conferences that are hosted in Toronto. For instance, in 2013 we participated in a poster lunch at the NCE GRAND conference, and we also used the presence of many colleagues of Ron Baecker who were attending GRAND to host the 70th Birthday celebration for KMDI founder Ron Baecker during the final evening of the GRAND conference.